

11 July 1946

SYMPHONY

1. The first formal information received about project Symphony occurred on 6 May when LVX-207 on Erich WENDER was received.
2. The last document received was LVX-216 received around the 15th of May. This was the first report on the project Symphony - its aims and agents.
3. It proposed to use the influx of Jewish refugees into Austria from the Balkans and nearby states for the purpose of gathering data on the intelligence service of the Jewish agency in Austria and for determining the use of the immigration records by other intelligence services for their activities.
4. Arthur PIER was described by the case officer as "the head agent of the Jewish agency in Austria."
5. Arthur PIER was to be the main agent in our case Symphony.
6. PIER claims to have been born in Vienna 15 April 21 (making him 25 years old at this time), and claimed to be a correspondent for a newspaper in Tel-Aviv as well as for the Palestinian telegraphic agency (Palcor). However, he is said to manage all the intelligence operations and interrogations for the Jewish agency in Vienna. The projected aims of the operation were named as three:
 - 1) Initial positive intelligence to be obtained by planting U.S. personnel in the guise of newspaper men

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3826
 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
 DATE 2008

in the DP camps.

2) A long range careful selection of Jewish agents to penetrate immigration movements other than the ~~imm~~ Zionist one.

3) Unofficial contact with the Jewish agency which is expected to produce information on personalities of counter-intelligence interest since it is stated that the Jewish agency seems willing to inform on any other immigration movement which might ruin their activities in the eye of the U.S. authorities.

4) Long range development of JJI memo of 12 March 46 (this means the project of inquiring into the alleged NKGB recruiting of Jewish agents for Palestine) This proposed project was received in Austria after the initialling of Symphony apparently, although before the Washington office had any knowledge of the Symphony project. It contemplated entirely undercover approach ~~xxxxx~~ by way of the infiltration of reliable U.S. agents as bona fide refugees.

7. L VX-217 concerns the arrest of Gaber SALZER in Hungary. SALZER ran an illegal immigration service for non-Jews posing as Bona fide ~~imm~~ Zionists. PIER reported that SALZER had an alignment with the NKVD whereby he provided the Nazis with false identification in Hungary and then smuggled them to Vienna; date of report 18 April 46, covering March to April 46.

8. L VX-218 of 18 April 46 Conductor advised that SALZER was ~~xxxxx~~ beaten to death after having betrayed Jewish Agency men in Budapest and Vienna. An official police

communiqué indicated SLAZER had died from a heart stroke.

9. LVX-219 of 18 April 1946 deals with the Jewish immigration run (Alfred SCHWARTZ). PIER advises that ~~WENNER~~ SCHWARTZ was sent to Vienna by the Deported Jews organization in Hungary (DEGOB) to ~~reorganize~~ repatriate to Hungary those Jews wishing to return. This activity may have been Communist controlled.

10. Later SCHWARTZ was put in charge unofficially of an office to recuperate Hungarian Jewish property in Austria.

11. LVX-220 of 19 April 46 concerned an alleged racket run by the French Mission in Budapest and the aid given to one LASZLI described as a Jewish ~~inspector~~ Inspector of the Hungarian State ~~Police~~ Police who pretended he wanted to immigrate to Palestine but who returned to Budapest after three days in Vienna.

12. LVX-221 of 19 April 46 was a report of three vaguely suspect Hungarian women who came to Vienna and did not move on with the other refugees to Palestine but stayed and became friends with CIC. There is no indication that this report submitted to any ~~other~~ one in the field except our own station so obviously UNRA and the CIC are still unaware that these three ladies may be Soviet agents.

13. LVX-222 on 19 April 46 described "KEPESZ" as right-hand man and courier to Budapest for PIER. KEPESZ is ~~still~~ said to travel to Budapest in a civilian car in UNRA uniform but the report does not indicate that he returns ^{and} an authorized UNRA job. ~~SECRET~~

14. LVX-223 19 April 1946 reports on four members of the Jewish Agency at BinderMichl Camp, Linz .

15. LVX-223 of 1 May 46 concern ^{Laszli} ~~LADISLUS~~ SZAK previously known as Laszli, agent for the political police, Hungarian State Police. It appears that SZAK was responsible for the discovery of the immigration racket ~~run~~ ^{run} by the French in Budapest and it also appears the he is investigating the ~~imm~~ illegal traffic of Zionists. Alfred SCHWARTS has been arrested possibly through information passed on by SZAK.

16. LVX238 of 1 May 46 transmitted copies of cables passed by the USFFET Headquarters, 3rd Army ACC Hungary regarding infiltrates to the U.S. sector, Vienna, regarding the stopping of such traffic. The comment on the document states that Col. HOWARD, G2 , USFA, indicated this was a purely G-5 matter and no G-2 or SCI/A material would be passed to this (sic) attention.

17. LVX-234 is a ^{copy} ~~summary~~ of a press release send by PIER to London for Palcor concerning the situation in Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

18. LSX-246 - 10 May 1946 names two Soviet NKVD men in Budapest.

19. LVX-247 13 May 1946 is glossary of Hebrew nomenclature .

20. Certain cables occurring around 1 June through 11 June concern a Ramona matter and are not included in the case file but are in Col. DeSylva's file. See also ISX291.

21. IN3871 5 27 June from Cairo for PIER is ^{man} known in Middle East and his press card is false.

22. IN37703 and OUT 1083 concern FRANK LAUFER. No report from field and queries as to use.

23. LSX252 of 14 May contains information on two British officers said to be engaged in intelligence work, extracted from a young Roumanian Jew who was captured by PIER's men and "taken care of."

24. ISX-255 described the activities of the Hungarian Police coming into Austria to locate illegal immigrants from *or the Balkans* ^{Hungary} Austria. (?)

25. LSX-256 - 13 May advises that the British have an interest ~~ing~~ in Jewish immigration with a view to discouraging it.

26. LSX-257 concerns RUFFER's investigation of the "mess in which are the affairs of the Political Department of the Jewish agency in Austria and Hungary":

GROSS	SCHWARTZ
BRANDT	SEDLACHEK
KASTNER	WENDER
SCHMIED	WIENIGER
GEFORN ^{NER} (?)	
LAUFFER	

27. LSX262 - 14 May concerns failure to interrogate ZALALLEL(?) NKVD sergeant, said to have deserted.

28. LSX-274 - 21 May concerns EMMERICH - member of the Hungarian Police, said to have come to Vienna.

29. LVX-231 is the interrogation of Michael ~~LEVIN~~ PINES loosely described as formerly NKVD captain and former major in Polish Security Troops in Lublin.

30. LVX-251 - 10 May 1946, concerns the direct overt contact made by our case officer with the political department Jewish Agency.

31. LSX-277 concerns the approach made by Col. HAMBLIN of the ~~British~~ British Army, Chief of Frontier Control for the purpose of securing information on the illegal migration of Jews from the Balkan countries into the Allied zones. According to the report Col. HAMBLIN was told that as far as the U.S. was concerned ~~it~~ ^{there} was no "illegal entry into the U.S. Zone." The Symphony case officer reports that he was present at the conversation between Col. HOWARD and Col. HAMBLIN and "assisted as a sort of advisor". On the advice of our case officer no official commitments have been made. The report further ~~the~~ states that PIER is well-informed on this requested co-ordination and will plan for operation accordingly.

32. LSX-248 - is a copy of a confidential report given to the American Minister in Hungary by the Hungarian section of the World Jewish Congress.

33. LSX-275 - 25 May is a portrait photograph of PIER.

34. LSX-312 12 June is information from WENDER on Sandu WEISSMANN, allegedly engaged in smuggling Jews into Roumania.

35. LSX-282 concerns the British and Russian attempts to restrain the ~~n~~ illegal immigration. The FSS has taken official action to cooperate with NKVD border troops in this direction.

36. LSX 302 - 7 June reports that the British have complete transcription of PIER's and Jewish Agency's telephone conversations ^{within} ~~will all~~ Vienna.

37. LSX-294 5 June is a report by Wender on one KAULINTZ @ KAUDA exGIS agent thought to be working for the Austrian State Police possibly for NKVD, ~~is~~ ^{was} confirmed.

38. LSX-293 - 5 June reports NKVD Agent Heinrich AIGNER;
no other info.

39. LSX-301 - KADAR: no relation to ?

40. LSX-279 - 27 May 46; PIER reports on trip of Mr.
RUFFER to Hungary. Reported that following victories scored.

1) Council of Hungarian Ministers will issue official
declaration whereby official emigration of Jews
to Palestine would be permitted.

2) Victory No.2 scored: A treasure of confiscated
Jewish property near Hallein (value \$50,000,000 to
\$150,000,000), The Hungarian government will
issue an official declaration this week charging
the Jewish Agency with the location and trusteeship
of all the property found in the U.S. Zone of Austria
and Germany and allowing Jewish agency to use it
for the immigration of Jewish refugees in Palestine.

General TATE in an interview (lacking knowledge of the details
the report said) suggested to Ruffer that the new 100,000 quota
for Palestine be used to move the refugees out of Austria to Germany.

41. LSX-313 12 June 46 WENDER - provides brief squib on emigration
racket between Bucharest and Budapest and one PHILLIP WHO
conducts same.

42.